Numb. 13

The Engliſh LUCIAN:

OR,

Weekly Diſcoveries

OF THE

Witty Intrigues, Comical Paſſages, and Remarkable Tranſactions in *Town* and *Country*: Being Reflections on the *Vices* and *Vanities* of the *Times*.

From Monday *March* 28, to Monday *April* 4.

Weſtminſter, March 29.

A Poor debauch'd Journey-man, having taken the Creature in abundance, could neither carry it nor himſelf home to his Cockloft apartment, but was forced to lay him down upon the Bed of Nature. A Watch-man coming that way, ſpy'd the fellow (being deform'd and Hill-back'd) and took him for a Portmantue with a Hat-Caſe to it; and looking upon the Booty as conſiderable acquainted the Conſtable with his good fortune, who came in all haſt to examine the poor drunken bundle, but finding how much they were miſtaken in the Purchaſe, for very Vexation they convey'd him to the Cage and Empounded him for that night. In the morning, before 'twas light, came a Neighbouring Pig-heard to look for a ſtraid Grunter of his family, who finding *Pickled-Cowcumber* in the Pound took him for his ſtray, and joyful at the diſcovery, began to School him in a kind of ſoliloquious Dialogue after this manner. *O have I found you at laſt? where have you been rambling trow? but 'tis an old ſaying and a true, the ſtill Sow drinks up all the Trough, &c.* A great deal more he ſaid to this purpoſe as near as I can geſs, for to tell you the truth I did not hear him, and at laſt poking him with a ſtick he had in his hand rouſed up the Dromedary, who was yet as drunk as *Davids* Sow, however, after much adoe, having raiſed himſelf upon his hind-feet, he began to mutter, which ſo terrified the Pig-driver that he went home with his briſtles an end, and ſwore he had ſeen the Devil in the ſhape of a Pig, but onely that he had ſawcer-eyes.

Black-Fryers, March 70. A Mechanick and his Wife, of this place, having ſeverally ſet apart this for a day of merriment, there aroſe a great controverſie between them, which of their humours ought to be gratifi'd. The Woman was very peremtory, and ſwore it was her turn, and ſhe wou'd go; but the good man knowing both the Right and the Power to be of his ſide, added Policy to his Authority, and putting all her Holly-day-'parrel in a Tub of water, ſo ſecur'd her, that for that day he triumph'd in the conqueſt even to intoxication. Being led home in that condition, beaſtly as well in reſpect of his habit as his underſtanding, his Wife had carefully provided him a delicate diſh of Rogues and Raſcals, which ſhe gave him Piping-hot for his Supper, and after ſhe had read him a Chapter of terrible hard Names got him to Bed; but finding him in a condition which ſome men have thought to be fortunate, upon a more neceſſary conſideration than that of *Lex talionis*, ſhe took his cloaths and carried them to the fore mentioned Tub, and threw them in, reſolving it ſhou'd be the laſt time that ever the Petticoats ſhou'd give place to the Breeches.

Cow-Croſs, March 29. A Yoke of tyr'd Husbands, that drew on the Burden of Wedlock very heavily, to whom the ſmell of Matrimony was as fullſome as that of a Cooks Shop to a weak Stomack, having ſeen *Marriage A-la-mode*, and read *Milton* of *Divorce*, and *Dr. B--* of *Concubinage*, began to be as ſick of their Wives, as a diſeaſed Gallant of over-roaſted Mutton, and once or twice reſolved to try a touch with them in the Spiritual Court, but that, conſidering the tediouſneſs and expenſe of that remedy, they thought it more agreeable to make an exchange (liking each others Wife very well) and to Cuckold one another by conſent, as perhaps they had formerly done without. The propoſition being made over a Glaſs of Wine, was readily conſented to on all hands, and that with as much chearfulneſs and ſolemnity as on their Wedding-day; only that here they made uſe of a Scrivener, inſtead of a Parſon; eſteeming *Noverint univerſi per preſentes*, to be a far more obliging form of Words than I *N. take thee N. &c.* So that having *Signed, Sealed, and deliver'd in the preſevce of us* —— They went ſeverally home with their new bargains, faithfully promiſing, and for ought I know reſolving to Gallant one another as longe as they could agree upon the matter, or upon breach of Covenants to pay the Reſpective Penalties; But ſome officious blabbing Goſſip, that poſſibly envy'd their happineſs, made complaint thereof to a Juſtice of Peace, who having ſent his Warrant for them, examin'd the buſineſs, check'd them for their folly, cancell'd their Writings, ſent 'em home with their own goods again, diſcontented Husbands, tho Contented Cockolds.

London.